



CITY OF BOSTON
AND
BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year 1964.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

At 1st January, 1964.

Alderman Mrs. Alice S. Johnson,
J.P., *Chairman*.

Councillor B. J. Veal,
Vice-Chairman.

The Mayor, Councillor A. A.
Goodson, J.P.

Alderman E. A. Arnold.

„ Mrs. B. M. Roe, J.P.

„ C. Valentine.

Councillor J. Brockelsby.

„ J. H. Dell.

„ N. O. Haworth.

„ Dr. G. R. Usmar.

„ Mrs. E. M. Valentine.

„ G. G. A. Whitehead.

„ E. B. Willis, J.P.

After 20th May, 1964.

Councillor B. J. Veal,
Chairman.

Councillor J. Brockelsby,
Vice-Chairman.

The Mayor, Councillor B. Eyre,
J.P.

Alderman Mrs. Alice S. Johnson,
J.P.

„ Mrs. B. M. Roe, J.P.

„ J. P. Roe.

„ C. Valentine.

„ Mrs. E. M. Valentine.

Councillor J. H. Dell.

„ R. A. Dilley.

„ M. Emmitt.

„ N. O. Haworth.

„ E. B. Willis, J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer of Health :

G. HIRD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :

G. E. CHAMBERLAIN, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :

D. H. MILSOM, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :

B. J. SAUNDERS, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

(Resigned 28th June, 1964)

C. E. THOMSETT, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

(Appointed 12th October, 1964)

Meat Inspector :

A. T. FAIRGRIEVE,

Scottish Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods

(Appointed 17th August, 1964)

Chief Clerk :

D. DADY.

Junior Clerk :

R A. BLANCHARD

(Appointed 7th January, 1964)

Typist (part-time) :

Mrs. M. JACKSON

(Resigned 31st December, 1964)

BOROUGH OF BOSTON

AND

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

To :—The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Boston.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health conditions in the Borough and on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1964.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population was 25,060, an increase of 50 on the previous year's estimate. The natural increase for the year that is to say the excess of births over deaths was 190. The corresponding estimate of mid-year population 10 years ago was 24,420.

There were 469 births during 1964, the highest number in the past 15 years. Of the 469 births 45 were illegitimate. This was an increase of 8 compared with 1963. This represents over 9% of all births. The Crude Birth Rate was 18.7 and after adjustment with the Comparability Factor issued by the Registrar-General, the Corrected Birth Rate was 18.9. This was higher than the figure for England and Wales which was 18.4.

There were 10 Still Births during the year, one more than in 1963. This gave a Still Birth Rate of 20.9 which was higher than the National figure of 16.4. During 1964 there were 12 infant deaths under the age of 1 year, 3 more than in the previous year. This gave an Infant Mortality Rate of 25.6. The figure for England and Wales was 20.0. Of these 12 deaths, 11 occurred in the first 4 weeks of life and were generally associated with factors and conditions occurring during pregnancy. The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is the number of Still Births plus the Deaths under 1 week of age was 39.7.

There were 279 deaths during 1964 which was 3 more than in the previous year. This gave an Adjusted Death Rate of 12.0 compared with 11.3 for England and Wales. 53 deaths were due to malignant disease and of these 9 were due to Lung Cancer. Deaths from Cancer

accounted for approximately 19% of all deaths. With regard to other causes, Heart and other Circulatory Diseases accounted for 50%. Respiratory disease accounted for 35 deaths, Motor Accidents for 7, Other Accidents 5, and Suicide 3.

Infectious diseases did not constitute much of a problem during the year. This was largely due to the fact that there was only 1 notified case of Dysentery. Chicken Pox with 345 notified cases was the most prevalent of the infectious diseases during 1964, followed by Measles with 84. There were 13 cases of Pneumonia, about half the number notified in 1963, and 21 cases of Whooping Cough. No deaths occurred from any of the common infectious diseases. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis. The town is indeed fortunate that there has only been 3 cases in the past 10 years. There was a high percentage of children immunised in the pre-school age groups, whilst there were even higher percentages in the School Age Groups. At nearly all ages, the percentage immunised was well over 80%.

With regard to Tuberculosis, 10 new cases were notified, 8 of them being Pulmonary infections. 12 old cases were removed from the Register during the year, leaving 150 still on at 31st December. During November the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit from Lincoln visited the town and was well attended by people generally.

Further progress was made with Slum Clearance in the St. John's Road area and also in the London Road area. In all a total of 40 houses were dealt with.

During the year 171 dwellings were erected in the Borough, 61 by the Council and 110 by private enterprise. In addition a further 48 were still under construction at the end of December.

The West Side Sewerage Scheme continued to make satisfactory progress and should be completed towards the end of 1965.

Meat inspection continued to occupy a great deal of the Public Health Inspector's time. A Meat Inspector was appointed in August and thus the inspectors were able to devote more time to other important public health duties. The number of carcasses inspected increased during 1964. In all 54,774 inspections were carried out, 18,281 more than in 1963, representing an increase of nearly 50%. It was still necessary for the inspectors to work in the evenings and also at weekends.

As judged by the Vital Statistics, the health conditions in the Borough were generally satisfactory and compared favourably in many instances with the figures for England and Wales. Close co-operation has been maintained with the County Health Department in many aspects of public health work in regard to schools and clinics, and with the County Welfare Department in other matters. The Public Health Laboratory Service, under the direction of Dr. Croll, was again most helpful during the year in respect of bacteriological investigations.

Due to staffing difficulties 1964 was not a particularly easy year but nevertheless, the inspectors and clerical staff maintained their usual high standards. In conclusion I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support during 1964 and the other Chief Officers and their staffs for help and co-operation given in many ways.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

G. HIRD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6 Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.
Telephone No. 4601 (six lines)

October, 1965.

Part 1

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

GENERAL STATISTICS :—

Area (in acres)	3,259
Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1964)	25,060
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1964 (according to the Rate Books)	8,760
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1965	£996,255
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Est. 1965-66)	£3,990
Estimated average number of Persons per Inhabited House	2.9
Estimated average number of Persons per Acre	7.7
Average number of Inhabited Houses per Acre	2.7

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC. :—

The social conditions of the area have remained unchanged during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS :—

Live Births							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	221	203	424
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	24	45
Total Live Births							242	227	469
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)									18.7
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted)									18.9
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births								...	9.6%
Still Births							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	10
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total Still Births							2	8	10
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births									20.9

	Male	Female	Total
Total Live and Still Births	244	235	479

Infant Deaths

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	5	8
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	4	8	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality Rates :—

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	25.6
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	18.9
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births	88.9

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	5	7
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	8	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	23.4
--	------

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	7	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ...	19.2
---	------

Perinatal Mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week ...	4	15	19
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...			39.7

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	Nil

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
All Causes	132	147	279
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude) ... ..	...	...	11.1
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted) ... ..	...	...	12.0

OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

POPULATION :—

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1964 was 25,060, an increase of 50 on the figure given for the previous year which was 25,010. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 190.

BIRTHS :—

There were 469 births in the Borough during 1964, 242 male and 227 female. Of the total, 45 were illegitimate. This was the highest number of births in the past 15 years and followed the National trend. The Live Birth Rate was 18.7 and the adjusted rate was 18.9. The National figure was 18.4 per 1,000 population.

STILL BIRTHS :—

There were 10 Still Births during the year. This gave a Still Birth Rate of 20.9 which was slightly higher than the figure for England and Wales, namely 16.4.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :—

There were no deaths from this cause during 1964.

INFANT MORTALITY :—

There were 12 infant deaths under the age of 1 year during 1964. Of these, 11 died in the first four weeks of life. The cause of death in many cases was due to conditions arising during pregnancy. The Infant Mortality Rate was 25.6 which was higher than in the previous year and also higher than the National figure of 20.0 per 1,000 live births.

PERINATAL MORTALITY :—

This is a combination of deaths under 1 week together with Still Births. The total for 1964 was 19. This gave a Perinatal Mortality figure of 39.7 which was higher than the National figure of 28.2.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :—

During 1964 there were 279 deaths, 132 males and 147 females. This gave a Crude Death Rate of 11.1 and a corrected figure of 12.0. The figure for England and Wales was 11.3.

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates in Borough of Boston, 1950—1964.

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rates	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates	Average 5 years		
						Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1950	424	16.9	334	13.3	30.7	17.1	11.4	30.1
1951	424	17.4	278	11.4	30.7			
1952	397	16.4	267	11.0	25.2			
1953	414	17.0	260	10.7	33.8			
1954	432	17.7	259	10.6	30.1			
1955	379	15.6	254	10.4	29.0	16.9	10.2	29.5
1956	438	18.1	238	9.8	29.7			
1957	429	17.9	204	8.5	25.6			
1958	401	16.6	262	10.8	37.4			
1959	390	16.1	275	11.3	25.6			
1960	429	17.5	286	11.7	16.3	17.5	11.1	20.6
1961	416	16.7	278	11.2	16.8			
1962	414	16.6	265	10.6	24.1			
1963	446	17.8	276	11.0	20.2			
1964	469	18.7	279	11.1	25.6			

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOSTON M.B., 1964.

No.	Cause of Death.	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	12	17
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16.	Diabetes	2	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	29	27
18.	Coronary disease, angina	20	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
20.	Other heart disease	13	16
21.	Other circulatory disease	10	14
22.	Influenza	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	4	9
24.	Bronchitis	13	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases	7	14
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	3
34.	All other accidents	—	5
35.	Suicide	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—
ALL CAUSES		132	147

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

I am indebted to N. H. Middlebrook, Esq., Meteorologist, for the following summary of the weather conditions of the area for the past two years as recorded by him at the Meteorological Station, Freiston Road, Boston.

	1964	1963
Days of measurable rain	159	187
Mean maximum temperature (average 56.7°)	56.8°	54.5°
Mean minimum temperature (average 42.1°)	41.9°	40.4°
Mean day and night temperature (average 49.4°)	49.3°	47.5°
No. of days with temperatures between 70° and 79°	63	34
No. of days with temperatures 80° or over ...	7	2
No. of air frosts	61	82
No. of ground frosts	90	126
No. of days of snow or sleet	14	41
No. of days with thunderstorms	11	10
No. of days with fog	47	33
No. of days with winds reaching gale force ...	9	8

Total rainfall 20.49" against average of 24.18"

Total rainfall for 1963 : 21.28"

Greatest rainfall in one day : 1.51" on 14th March.

Highest day maximum temperature : 89° on 24th August.

Lowest air night minimum temperature : 17° on 29th December.

Highest barometer reading : 30.93" (1047 millibars) on 8th Feb.

Lowest barometer reading : 29.05" (984 millibars) on 8th Oct.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

LABORATORY FACILITIES :—

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln. Samples of ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for examination and further details of this work will be found in Sections C. and E.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, have continued to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the Ambulance and Transport Department, Allan House, Carlton Road.

During the year the following resources were available at the Boston Ambulance Station :—

- Emergency Ambulances 3.
- Infectious Diseases Ambulance 1.
- Car Type Transit Ambulances 2.
- Utility Ambulances 2.
- Sitting Case Cars 4.
- Station Officer 1.
- Wholetime Driver/Attendants 10.

No new vehicles were purchased for use in the Borough during 1964.

All ambulances carry oxygen therapy apparatus and have been adapted to carry a portable incubator for small premature babies. A mechanical resuscitator is available for cases of drowning, asphyxiation, etc. Apparatus to carry out mouth to mouth resuscitation is also provided.

NURSING IN THE HOME :—

The home nursing service is under the control of the Local Health Authority.

PUBLIC MORTUARY :—

The Public Mortuary is managed by the Borough Engineer's Department. I am satisfied that the Mortuary is properly conducted and the facilities adequate.

HOSPITALS :—

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :—

Boston General Hospital—Acute General.

London Road Hospital—General, Orthopaedic and Traumatic Surgery.

White House Hospital, Fishtoft—Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital—Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton—Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Children's Hospital—Sick Children.

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS :—

The following clinics, etc. are conducted by the Holland County Council at Ferry House, London Road.

Infant Welfare.

Ante-Natal.

Ophthalmic.

Dental.

Speech Therapy.

Physically handicapped—special teaching.

Intelligence testing and medical examinations.

Mothercraft and relaxation classes.

The Cleansing Station continues to function at Ferry House and further details with regard to the arrangements for the treatment of Scabies will be found in Section F of this Report.

The Child Guidance Centre is in Tower Street.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47—REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION :—

One case necessitated action under the above Section during the year and this was brought to notice by the District Welfare Officer. It concerned an old man who was in need of care and attention and who refused to go into hospital voluntarily.

Investigation revealed that the man was suffering from a grave chronic disease, was aged, infirm, living in insanitary conditions, was unable to devote to himself, and was not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention. It was, therefore, necessary in his own interests, to arrange for his immediate removal and on the 29th January an order was made and he was removed to the Gables Hospital, Hundleby, for a period of three weeks.

Despite the fact that the order had to be periodically renewed, as he would not give his consent to remain in hospital, he made good progress and eventually was considered fit enough to be transferred to Part III accommodation where he still remains.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. Ian A. Campbell, Engineer, East Lincolnshire Water Board for the following report on the Borough Water Supply :—

1. **Preamble.** The Borough Water Undertaking became an integral part of the East Lincolnshire Water Board on the 1st April, 1964.

2. **Sources of Supply.** Although water may be delivered from other sources of supply North of Boston in times of emergency the main sources are as follows :—

(a) Fordington (boreholes in the Spilsby Sandstone—Safe Yield 1 M.G.D.) in the Spilsby Rural District and 4 miles North of Spilsby and approximately 20 miles from Boston.

(b) Revesby (Impounding Reservoir and Catchment Area approximately 2,000 acres—Safe Yield 0.3 M.G.D.) in the Horncastle Rural District and approximately 12 miles North of Boston, and

(c) In Bulk from the mains of the South Lincolnshire Water Board (Supply points London Road, Wyberton Low Road and Fishtoft Road).

3. **Rainfall.** The rainfall recorded at Revesby during the year 1964 was 19.91" (Annual average 24.94").

Rainfall at Fordington in 1964 was 22.48".

4. **Volume of Water Supplied in 1964 with comparison for 1963.**

Thousands of gallons								
Year	Revesby	Av. G.P.D.	Fordington	Av. G.P.D.	Bulk	Av. G.P.D.	Total	Av. G.P.D.
1964	191,123	522	267,053	730	207,322	566	665,498	1,818
1963	241,267	661	187,076	512	186,074	510	614,417	1,683
	-50,144	-139	+79,977	+218	+21,248	+56	+51,081	+135

N.B.—In addition to the supply to the Borough the figures given in the above table include supplies in the Parishes of West Fen, Carington, Frithville, Sibsey, Westville, Thornton-le-Fen and Langri-ville in the Spilsby Rural District, the Parish of Revesby in the Horn-castle Rural District and Parts of the Parishes of Fishtoft and Brother-toft in the Boston Rural District.

The total estimated water population is 30,500 of which 25,000 represents the Borough.

The consumption for 1964 equates to 59.6 gallons per head per day for all purposes (including waste), an increase of 5.3 g.p.h.d. on 1963, primarily due to increased trade supplies by meter.

5. **Pressures** in the town mains remain sub-standard during "peak" periods, the general lack of storage in industrial premises and in the town generally contrives to place great strain on the trunk mains and booster plant at the Horncastle Road Site.

A 300,000 gallon reinforced concrete Water Tower 100 ft. high on a site off Garfit's Lane/London Road is scheduled for erection during 1965/66. This tower will receive water from the South Lincolnshire Water Board and materially improve matters.

6. Extensions of Mains during 1964.

Boston Borough.	Dia. Inches	Type Pipe	Length Yards	Remarks
1. Marian Road	3	C.I.	12	Supply for new crematorium.
2. Tower Road	4	A.C.	90	Supply for new building estate.
3. Linley Drive (off London Road)	4	C.I. & A.C.	51	"
4. Coningsby Drive (off Brothertoft Road)	4	A.C.	40	"
5. South End	9	C.I.	430	Renewal of old main and supply improvement.
Parish of Fishtoft.				
6. Kenleigh Drive (off Eastwood Rd.)	4	C.I.	148	Supply for new building estate.
7. Churchill Drive (off Eastwood Rd.)	2	P.V.C.	200	"
Total			971	

7. Quality of Water.

- (i) The quality of the water (from surface and underground sources) has been in my opinion, satisfactory throughout the year, and regular and systematic flushing operations are undertaken, particularly at "dead" ends.
- (ii) Monthly samples of the raw water and treated water passing to supply at Revesby and Fordington have been submitted to the Public Analyst at Nottingham (Mr. E. Fogden, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) and frequent samples of the water in the mains have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service

at Lincoln for bacteriological analysis. No adverse reports have been received in respect of " treated water " passing to supply.

(iii) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

8. Quantity of Water Available.

- (i) Considering the fine summer of 1964 the supply during the year was satisfactory apart from the pressure limitations previously referred to.
- (ii) The proportion of the houses in the Borough supplied by standpipes and outside taps is relatively small and mainly confined to old parts of the town.

About 1% of the approximate 8,000 houses are without a piped water supply. For the purposes of this report, standpipes and yard taps are treated as piped supplies.

9. Works.

The Board's works (including reservoirs, pumping stations, pumping and treatment plant) at Revesby, Fordington and Horncastle Road, Boston, have been maintained in good condition.

IAN A. CAMPBELL,

Engineer.

22nd April, 1965.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :—

Work on Stage III of the West Side Sewerage Scheme is progressing and should be complete by September, 1965. Sewerage and sewage disposal within the Borough should then be reasonably adequate. Routine maintenance and sewer cleansing have continued.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE SCHEMES :—

A weekly system of house refuse collection has been maintained. Controlled tipping is carried out on the Old Golf Course. Collections of waste paper for the year ending on the 31st December, 1964, were 753 tons compared with 774 tons in the previous year.

Costs for the year ending the 31st March, 1964, were :—

Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	£26,108
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	£4,743
							<hr/>
							£30,851
Less Income from salvage, trade refuse, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£8,937
							<hr/>
							£21,914
							<hr/>

Nett cost per ton	35/8d.
Nett cost per 1,000 of population	£876
Nett cost per 1,000 of premises	£2,327
Weight per 1,000 of population per day	27.8 cwt.

SWIMMING BATHS :—

Attendances at the baths exceeded all expectations but the water remained clear and bright and bacteriologically satisfactory all the time.

During the season 12 samples of water from the pool were sent for bacteriological examination and they were all reported as satisfactory.

MEASURES AGAINST INFESTATION :—

(a) Rodent Control :—

Except for some infestation of the refuse tip at the beginning of the year, no particular problems presented themselves.

The following table gives particulars of work carried out.

Year	No. of premises treated	No. of visits made
1962	203	430
1963	176	366
1964	210	439

(b) Verminous Houses :—

The number of premises treated for vermin is as follows :—

Bed Bugs	2
Fleas	3
Cockroaches, Ants, etc.	10

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION IN THE BOROUGH :—

The following information has been supplied by Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Chief Public Health Inspector, who is also responsible for the preparation of the remainder of this Section, Section D and much of Section E.

This has not been an easy year and for the first nine months your three inspectors were very fully employed. For several months early in the year the amount of slaughtering increased significantly and meat inspection began to take up a very large part of the inspectors' time. Later on the quantity subsided to a more manageable amount but the total number of carcasses inspected was the highest since 1959.

It became obvious that the increased work which would result from the implementation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises

Act, could not be properly absorbed by the existing staff and in March the Council decided to fill the vacancy for a second additional public health inspector. The position worsened when Mr. Saunders resigned to take an appointment with the Boston Rural District Council and it was only by upgrading the post that it was possible to obtain another inspector.

Owing to the lack of response to the advertisements for an additional public health inspector, it was decided to advertise for a meat inspector, and in July Mr. A. T. Fairgrieve, who holds the Scottish certificate as an Inspector of Meat and Other Foods was appointed. In September Mr. C. E. Thomsett from Folkestone accepted the appointment of additional public health inspector, thus completing the establishment.

The appointment of a meat inspector has worked very satisfactorily and although he is unable to carry out all the meat inspection, owing to the number of slaughterhouses in the town and the continued incidence of weekend work, he does relieve the other inspectors of a very large proportion of a time consuming job.

Although the majority of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act came into force on the 1st August, we were at that time so short of staff that it was impracticable to commence inspections. In fact, work under the Act did not start until November and by that time over 334 registration forms had been received which, as far as one can judge, was a very good response.

In the few weeks remaining before the end of the year as much time as possible was devoted to the Act and altogether 79 premises were inspected.

Inspections under the Food Hygiene Regulations were regrettably few owing to the pressure of other work. The general standard of hygiene in food premises is unremarkable, being neither commendably high nor unduly low. Your inspectors do their best to raise the standard but undoubtedly the general public hold the most potent weapon and can do a great deal by refusing to trade at premises where the standards are low.

This was a quiet year for slum clearance. Thirty-five houses in St. John's Road and St. John's Close were represented as clearance areas and those not already owned by the Corporation are to be purchased either by agreement or compulsorily. An adjoining builders merchant's yard was included in the compulsory purchase order for the proper redevelopment of the area. In addition a small clearance order covering five houses in Ransom Place and Baxter's Passage was made and confirmed and individual houses were dealt with either by demolition orders or closing orders.

The Housing Act 1964 gives the Corporation extensive powers to obtain the improvement of suitable houses but no use has so far been made of these powers.

Meat inspection is still the major job of the department and owing to the number of slaughterhouses to be visited and the continuance of weekend and evening work, it consumes more than the time of one inspector. The employment once more of a full time meat inspector during the last four and a half months of the year has proved to be a very good move and it is to be hoped that we shall be able to retain his services for a long time.

The introduction in October 1963 of charges for meat inspection led to determined protests from the butchers who appealed to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the grounds that the charges were excessive in view of the cost to the Corporation of the service. However, the Ministry saw no reason to vary the charges and the Council resolved to make no change until they had been in operation for twelve months. It was then found that a surplus had accrued and the charges for the ensuing year were adjusted in an endeavour to dispose of this.

It is still proving difficult to carry out inspections completely in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations and further experience of them suggests that some minor modifications to the Regulations are desirable.

Our experience of carrying out rodent control through specialist contractors has proved to be a happy one and is to be continued although in September we changed the contractors, the Council deciding to accept the lower of the two tenders that were submitted to them.

In general the year ended much more satisfactorily than it began. The appointment of a fourth inspector has made it possible to devote time to jobs other than those immediately necessary with the result that all the staff obtain more satisfaction from their work. If this position can be maintained there should be more positive results to report in the future.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR :—

	Inspections	Revisits and Routine Inspections
Housing Act (including house-to-house) ...	34	147
Overcrowding	46	1
Public Health Acts	138	272
Drainage	71	231
Dustbins	8	8
Offensive Trades	—	3

						Inspections	Revisits and Routine Inspections
Caravan Act	...	...	...	...	...	17	121
Food Hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	23	62
Slaughterhouses (Structure)	...	...	...	...	...	3	38
Market Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	1	18
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	6	19
Workplaces and Offices	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	4	8
Smoke Observation	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
Noise Abatement Act	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
Visits to Dock	...	...	...	...	...	1	204
Vessels Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	46	32
Dysentery and Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	21	21
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
Rat Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	14	14
Insect Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	6	5
Shops (Shops Act, 1950)	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
Licensing Act	...	...	...	...	...	3	30
Animal Boarding Establishment Act	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	458	1257
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	417
Number of visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2757
Visits re unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	214

Samples Taken

Water :—

Public Supply	...	...	...	...	...	92	
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Other	...	...	...	...	...	—	104
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	37

Drains

Drains Tested	16
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Other Public Health Work

Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

OFFICE WORK :—

Informal Notices					Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961	...	...	...	...	20	12
Dustbin	...	...	...	...	1	1

Statutory Notices					Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957, Sect. 9	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961	...	...	...	...	24	25
Dustbin	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Conversions	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil

NUISANCES REPORTED AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED :—

Total number of complaints received ... 440

The following are details of complaints received and remedied :—

General Housing Complaints	...	...	...	...	24
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	5
Caravans	...	...	...	...	9
Fleas, Beetles, etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Ants	...	...	...	...	5
Wasps' and Bees' Nests	...	...	...	...	32
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	163
Choked Drains and Sewers	...	...	...	...	104
Defective Drains	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	1
Flooded Cellars	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	8
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	5
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	...	49
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	14

NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS :—

Factories	...	...	...	...	1
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	1
Undeveloped Land	...	...	...	...	1
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	1

Other Items

WATER :—

A small number of complaints concerning bad colour or excess chlorine were received and these were dealt with by mains flushing.

12 samples were submitted for chemical analysis and 80 for bacteriological examination and they were all reported as satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES :—

There are no registered common lodging houses in the town.

FACTORIES :—

Particulars of visits to factories are contained in the following tables.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1964 for the Borough of Boston in the County of Holland (Lincs.).

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	175	16	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	17	6	Nil	Nil
Total	199	25	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	1	1	Nil	1	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel : Making, etc.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

OUTWORKERS' PREMISES :—

Only one outworker is registered and the premises are satisfactory. No case of infectious disease occurred on these premises.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Number of Houses erected in the Borough during the year :—

			Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	...	...	53	53	4
(b) By the Council ...	...	...	55	6	—

Number under construction at the end of 1964 :—

			Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	...	...	21	26	—
(b) By the Council ...	...	...	1	—	—

SLUM CLEARANCE :—

Comments on the progress of slum clearance are included under “ Public Health Inspection in the Borough ”.

The following tables show the progress made in rehousing and demolition.

REPAIR AND DEMOLITION :—

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE -AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

A.	IN	No. of Houses Demolished	Unfit for human habitation Nil	11
	CLEARANCE		Included by reason of bad arrangement Nil	Nil
	AREAS		On land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 Nil	Nil
HOUSES	DECLARED	PERSONS DISPLACED during year	From houses unfit for human habitation 99	99
	UNDER		From houses included by reason of bad arrangement Nil	Nil
	SECTION		From houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 6	6
DEMOLISHED	42 of the		From houses unfit for human habitation 30	30
	Housing	FAMILIES DISPLACED during year	From houses included by reason of bad arrangement Nil	Nil
DURING	Act, 1957		From houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 1	1
THE				
YEAR	NOT	No.	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 13	13
	IN	of	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health Nil	Nil
	CLEARANCE	Houses	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts Nil	Nil
	AREAS	Demolished	Houses included in unfitness orders made under paragraph 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961 Nil	Nil

	NOT IN	PERSONS	From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957	19
		DISPLACED	From Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil
		during	From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
		year	From houses included in unfitness orders	Nil
	CLEARANCE AREAS	FAMILIES	From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	9
		DISPLACED	From Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil
		during	From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
		year	From houses included in unfitness orders	Nil
Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed			3	
B.	No. of HOUSES	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961	5	
UNFIT		Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
HOUSES	PERSONS	From houses to be closed :—		
CLOSED	DISPLACED	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961	19	
during the	during	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
year in	year			
pursuance of	FAMILIES	From houses to be closed :—		
closing orders	DISPLACED	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961	5	
or	during	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
undertakings.	year			

PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 :—		
No. of HOUSES		Nil
No. of PERSONS DISPLACED		Nil
No. of FAMILIES DISPLACED		Nil
C.	After informal action by Local Authority : by owner	11
UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	After formal notice under Public Health Acts	
	(a) by owner	5
	(b) by Local Authority	Nil
	After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	
	(a) by owner	1
	(b) by Local Authority	Nil
	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 by owner	Nil

D.		Under Section 48 No. of houses 	Nil
UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT, 1957)	POSITION AT END OF YEAR	No. of separate dwellings contained therein 	Nil
	Retained for temporary accommo- dation	Under Section 17(2) No. of houses 	Nil
		No. of separate dwellings contained therein 	Nil
		Under Section 46 No. of houses 	Nil
		No. of separate dwellings contained therein 	Nil
		Licensed for temporary accommoda- tion under Section 34 or 53— No. of houses 	Nil
E.	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders		
PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT		No. of houses 	Nil
		No. of occupants 	Nil

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION :—

Meat Inspection, the operation of the Regulations and the appointment of a specialist inspector are commented on in the section “ Public Health Inspection in the Borough ”. There has been a significant increase in the number of animals slaughtered and the indications are that this is likely to be maintained.

Meat Destroyed

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Carcases whole with offal	46	104	183	333
Forequarters	1	14	13	28
Hindquarters	14	3	13	30
Plucks	—	36	400	436
Heads and Tongues	45	—	293	338
Livers	569	193	606	1368
Lungs	78	—	822	900
Intestines	4	—	6	10
Miscellaneous	118	387	285	790
Meat	463 lbs.	—	98 lbs.	561 lbs.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed } Number inspected }	3970	1264	111	23655	25774	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcases con- demned	14	27	5	104	180	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	314	360	13	537	1565	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	8.3	30.6	16.2	2.7	6.8	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	—	—	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	1	—	—	261	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis ....	.15	.07	—	—	1.0	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrig- eration	11	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

MILK AND OTHER FOODS :—

Owing to pressure of other work insufficient time was devoted to food premises and food inspection (other than meat). Seven notices were served for contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations and a small number of complaints of unsound food or food not of the nature, etc., demanded, were dealt with informally.

ACTION UNDER REGULATION 20, MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No action was necessary under the above Regulation during 1964.

FOOD POISONING :—

Only two cases were notified during 1964. Although investigations were made no specific organisms were isolated, nor was the source of infection traced.

BYE-LAWS UNDER SECTION 15, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 :—

The enforcement of the bye-laws has not created any difficulties, such breaches as have been observed being dealt with by verbal or written warnings.

ICE-CREAM :—

During the year there was an increase of one in the number of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream, but none for the manufacture. The results of samples submitted for bacteriological examination are given in the following table :—

Samples examined by the Methylene Blue Test.

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	15
Number of samples classified Grade I	...	...	...	8
Number of samples classified Grade II	...	...	...	4
Number of samples classified Grade III	...	...	...	3
Number of samples classified Grade IV	...	...	...	Nil

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the total number of infectious diseases notified and confirmed during the year and the numbers admitted to hospital.

Measles : 84 cases were notified during the year. This was much less than in the previous year.

Chicken Pox : With 345 notified cases this was the most prevalent of the infectious diseases.

Pneumonia : 13 cases were notified which is almost half the number notified in 1963.

Whooping Cough : There were 21 cases. This was the highest number in the past 3 years.

Dysentery : Only one case was notified during 1964.

Smallpox, Diphtheria, Typhoid and Paratyphoid : No cases were reported as occurring in the Borough during the year.

Scabies : 10 cases were notified as occurring in the Borough during the year, treatment for three patients being provided by their medical practitioner, whilst the remaining seven cases were treated at the Cleansing Station.

The Holland County Council provides treatment for cases of Scabies occurring in the Borough, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the Corporation. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

In order to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease, International Regulations require travellers to be innoculated or vaccinated against certain specified diseases such as Smallpox, Cholera and Yellow Fever. Certificates to this effect are required to be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health and many such certificates have been completed during the year.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1964

Disease	Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital
Chicken Pox	345	345	Nil
Dysentery	1	1	Nil
Food Poisoning	2	1	2
Measles	84	84	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	2
Pneumonia	13	13	6
Scabies	10	10	Nil
Scarlet Fever	7	7	Nil
Whooping Cough	21	21	1

Infectious Diseases Notified 1955—1964

Disease	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Chicken Pox	345	37	249	195	300	362	210	90	70	462
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	132	176	6	4	246	15	8	5	12
Encephalitis : (Post Infectious)	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	2	3	3	5	3	2	3	2
Food Poisoning	2	1	7	13	6	13	2	31	15	20
Malaria (Con- tracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Measles	84	242	251	486	87	633	6	723	152	277
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	4	4	—	1	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	25	29	39	26	42	51	52	38	45
Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	—	—	—	10	16	4	10
Scabies	10	6	—	—	3	—	18	1	9	14
Scarlet Fever	7	20	47	27	56	16	15	7	15	38
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	21	1	2	43	65	—	1	145	56	25

TUBERCULOSIS :—

Cases notified within the Borough come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, South Lincolnshire Area.

TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
Over 65	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Total	6	2	—	2	4	1	—	—

SUMMARY OF CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1955—1964

Year	Cases on Register			Notifications each year			Deaths		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1955	108	20	128	16	6	22	2	1	3
1956	100	22	122	6	2	8	2	—	2
1957	102	20	122	10	—	10	—	—	—
1958	106	21	127	13	2	15	4	1	5
1959	118	21	139	19	—	19	3	—	3
1960	122	26	148	16	5	21	4	—	4
1961	125	26	151	11	1	12	1	—	1
1962	128	26	154	8	2	10	2	—	2
1963	126	26	152	5	1	6	2	—	2
1964	123	27	150	8	2	10	5	—	5

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Males		Females		Total
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases on Register at beginning of year	73	14	53	12	152
(b) Number of cases notified for first time in year	5	—	1	1	7
(c) Number of cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register other than by formal notification	1	—	1	1	3
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year	8	1	3	—	12
(f) Number of cases remaining on Register on 31st Dec., 1964	71	13	52	14	150

IMMUNISATION :—

All arrangements in connection with immunisation within the Borough are under the control of the Holland County Council.

The following figures, supplied by the County Health Department, give details of the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Diphtheria :

Under 1 year ...	200
1 and under 5 years ...	197
5-14 years ...	5
	— 402
Number of Booster Injections ...	506

Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough :

Under 5 years ...	Nil
-------------------	-----

Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus :

Under 5 years ...	397
-------------------	-----

Percentage of children immunised against Diphtheria in relation to the child population at 31.12.64 :—

Under 1 year ...	36.5
1 and under 5 years ...	45.3
5-14 years ...	92.8

There was an increase in the number of immunisations carried out during 1964. There was an increase of nearly 60 in the Infant-14 year age group and the number of “ Boosters ” at all ages was nearly 100 more than in the previous year. In the under 5 age group the number increased by 55 to 397.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX :—

Primary Vaccinations :—

Under 1 year	108
1 year	59
2-4 years	21
5-14 years	6
15 years and over	24
	<hr/>
	218
	<hr/>

Re-vaccinations :—

1 year	Nil
2-4 years	Nil
5-14 years	4
15 years and over	12
	<hr/>
	16
	<hr/>

There was an increase in the numbers vaccinated against smallpox. The number of primary vaccinations increased by 60 to 218.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS :—

The following information has been supplied by the County Health Department.

POSITION AT 31st December, 1964.

Of the babies born in 1964, 13.8% had been vaccinated against poliomyelitis at 31.12.64. By 31st March, 1965 this figure had risen to 32.1%. Comparable figures for 31st December, 1963 and 31st March, 1964 of babies born in 1963 were 8.1% and 20.8%.

Other Pre-School Ages.

Born in				Percentage vaccinated.		
1963	66.3
1962	70.7
1961	78.3
1960	72.9

The figures of these age groups at the end of 1963 were :—

1963	...	...	...	...	...	8.1
1962	...	...	...	...	...	59.4
1961	...	...	...	...	...	71.3
1960	...	...	...	...	...	69.6

The above figures and those shown in the following paragraph are given to indicate the steady rise during the pre-school period, and although smaller, during the school age period.

School Age Group.

Born in				Percentage vaccinated.	
				1964	1963
1959	...	...	...	90.0	86.1
1958	...	...	...	86.7	83.7
1957	...	...	...	92.7	91.3
1956	...	...	...	82.1	81.5
1955	...	...	...	87.3	86.8
1954	...	...	...	85.4	85.1
1953	...	...	...	87.4	86.7
1952	...	...	...	86.8	86.0
1951	...	...	...	85.8	85.6
1950	...	...	...	80.6	79.7
1949	...	...	...	73.5	72.9
1948	...	...	...	83.0	83.0

The percentages in most of the school age groups remains at a high figure. This must be maintained as poliomyelitis can rapidly spread in a poorly immunised community.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
CHIEF PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR

PART II
BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Boston,
being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by the
Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with much pleasure that I present to you the Report of the Port Medical Officer of the Boston Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1964 as required by Regulation 12(4) of the Public Health (Port Health District) Regulations, 1959. It has been prepared in accordance with Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health.

During 1964 there was a marked increase in the total number of ships entering the Port. There was an increase of 73 from foreign ports compared with 1963, 1,328 as against 1,255. This gave a tonnage of 293,038 compared with 276,668. The number of coastwise ships was 362, an increase of 94 as compared with 1963. This gave a tonnage of 75,564 as against 58,756. The total tonnage for the year was 368,602 compared with 335,424 in 1963, an increase of 33,178 tons.

With regard to cargo traffic there was little change in the principal imports and exports which are listed in Table C. Foreign ports of origin were also mainly the same.

No cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported on any of the ships entering the Port during 1964.

During the year 26 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued. There was a reduction in the number of notices in respect of nuisance, only 3 being served compared with 15 in 1963. All these notices were complied with before the vessels sailed.

I should like to thank the Officers of H.M. Customs, Waterguard, the Port Manager and his Staff and all others connected with the Port for their assistance during the year and also the Port Health Inspectors for their usual willing co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6, Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.

March, 1965.

SECTION I—Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1.5.58.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.—Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health—Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health—Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G. E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15.10.45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D. H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1.10.59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
SAUNDERS, B. J.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	26.6.61. (Resigned 28.6.64)	Cert. P.H.I.E.B., Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
THOMSETT, C. E.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	12.10.64.	Cert. P.H.I.E.B. Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
6 Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs.
BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

SECTION II—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	1,328	293,038	Nil	69	Nil
Coastwise	362	75,564	Nil	12	Nil
Total	1,690	368,602	Nil	81	Nil

SECTION III—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	Number of passengers INWARDS : 398 Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 93
CARGO TRAFFIC	Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Battens and Boards, Bulbs, Deals, Fertilizers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Petroleum, Potatoes, Salt, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General. Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Sheep, Steel and General.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive	BELGIUM : Antwerp, Brussels, Nieuport. CYPRUS : Famagusta. DENMARK : Frederikssund. FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Toppila. FRANCE : Bayonne, Dunkirk, Gravelines, Rouen. GERMANY : Hamburg, Stralsund, Wismar. GREECE : Milos, Naxos. HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Rotterdam, Terneuzen, Ymuiden. MALTA : Valletta. MOROCCO : Casablanca. NORWAY : Aaheim, Moh-I-Rana, Sundalsora. POLAND : Gdansk, Stettin. RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Kem, Leningrad. SARDINIA : Cagliari. SPAIN : Malaga. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Kalmar, Norrkoping.

SECTION IV—Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

SECTION V—Water supply.

1. Source of supply for

- (a) The District.
- (b) Shipping.

On the 1st April, 1964 the Corporation's Water Undertaking was merged into the East Lincolnshire Water Board and since that date the supply for both (a) and (b) has been obtained from this source.

2. Reports of tests for contamination.

NO CHANGE.

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

NO CHANGE.

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

NO CHANGE.

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

NO CHANGE.

2. Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14(1)(a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

NO CHANGE.

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

NO CHANGE.

4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

NO CHANGE.

5. Arrangements for :—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—see Section VII) :

NO CHANGE.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :

NO CHANGE

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :

NO CHANGE.

SECTION VII—Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Holland County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. G. Nisbet,
Bridge Street,
Peterborough.

Dr. J. Glen,
Springfield Hospital,
Scarthoe,
Grimsby.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A. W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

NO CHANGE.

SECTION IX—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1964.

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1964.

SECTION XII—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, but during 1964 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons	16
Ships from 301—1,000 tons	10
Ships from 1,001—3,000 tons	Nil
Total	26

SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of nuisances found.		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Defects of Original Construction	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
Structural Defects through wear and tear	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health	3	Nil	3	3 complied with
Total	3	Nil	3	3 complied with

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

A report was received from Nottingham early in the year of mussels originating from beds within the Port Health District being affected with *Salmonellae*. Samples taken at the time of the report were satisfactory and very soon afterwards the season ended. Samples taken later in the year were also satisfactory.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

NO CHANGE.

SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

NO CHANGE.

Food Inspection.

A list of the principal food imports appears in Table C on page 40. The main items of food were as follows:—

	Tons
Grain (in)	24,014
Grain (out)	10,033
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	26,835
Potatoes	10,564
Onions	12,483
Starch	20,851
Glucose	4,661
Confectionery	169
Dehydrated Vegetables	209
Beer	579
Vegetables in Brine	1,089
Tomato Puree	230
Frozen Foods	61
Fruit in Tins	87
Meat in Tins	35
Miscellaneous	120

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :—

Apples	....	....	....	....	....	3 boxes.
Cabbage	....	....	....	....	....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ bags.
Carrots	....	....	....	....	....	100 $\frac{1}{2}$ bags. 28 lbs.
Cherries	....	....	....	....	....	169 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Chips.
Lemons	....	....	....	....	....	30 Cartons.
Onions	....	....	....	....	....	31 bags. 3,913 $\frac{1}{2}$ bags. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ bags. 4 baskets. 250 lbs.

